

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USBERL 02150 260214Z

62

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-05 SAJ-01 IO-10 NIC-01 SCCT-01 CAB-02

COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 FAA-00 TRSE-00 /081 W

----- 109828

R 231025Z NOV 74

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 160

AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 2150

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA 5 LINES 2 AND 3 OMITTED)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ETRN, WB, GW, US, UK, FR

SUBJ: FRENCH ROLE IN BERLIN AIR MATTERS

REFS: A. BONN 17827, B. USBERLIN 2056 C. STATE 246088 D. BONN 18147

1. SUMMARY. WITH IMPENDING MOVE OF US AND BRITISH SCHEDULED CARRIERS TO TEGEL AIRPORT, FRENCH WILL PLAY INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT ROLE IN BERLIN AIR SERVICES, WHICH IN TURN ARE CRITICAL TO CITY'S VIABILITY. FRENCH ARE EAGER TO TAKE ON INCREASED RESPONSIBILITIES AND SEE THEIR PRESTIGE ENGAGED IN SO DOING. WHILE PROBLEMS WILL DOUBTLESS ARISE, WE BELIEVE CLOSE COOPERATION IS BEST WAY TO ASSURE PROTECTION OF OUR AIR INTERESTS. END SUMMARY.

2. PAST, FRENCH, WITH FEW AIR SERVICES, NO RESPONSIBILITIES AT TEMPELHOF, AND ONLY ARCHIVISTS'S ROLE IN BASC, HAVE PLAYED MINOR SUPPORTING ROLE  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USBERL 02150 260214Z

ON BERLIN AIR QUESTION. HOWEVER, THEY HAVE RECENTLY

MADE CLEAR THEIR INTENTION OF TAKING ON GREATER RESPONSIBILITY BEFITTING INVESTMENT THEY HAVE MADE AT TEGEL. FROM THEIR ACTIONS IN BERLIN, IT IS EVIDENT THEY INTEND TO BE COOPERATIVE WHILE GUARDING ZEALOUSLY THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES. FOREMOST AMONG THESE RESPONSIBILITIES WILL BE OPERATION OF WEST BERLIN'S PRINCIPAL AIRPORT WHERE, FROM ALL APPEARANCES, THEY INTEND TO CONTINUE TO RUN THE CIVIL AIRPORT AS THEY HAVE THUS FAR: UNDER COMMAND OF A FRENCH AIR FORCE OFFICER WHOSE CHAIN OF COMMAND RUNS UPWARD THROUGH POLITICAL:MILITARY, NOT CIVILIAN, CHANNELS.

3. ON RECENT AIR ISSUES, NEW FRENCH ATTITUDE OF INTEREST AND COOPERATION HAS BEEN STRIKING. AT POLITICAL LEVEL, FRENCH REGARDED AS "URGENT MATTER" QUESTION OF ADDITIONAL TELEPHONE LINKS BETWEEN TEGEL AND BASC (REF A). SUBSEQUENTLY, FRENCH LINKED THAT QUESTION WITH NEED FOR GREATER FRENCH ROLE IN BASC WHERE HERETOFORE FRENCH HAVE BEEN KEEPING FILES WHILE MAJOR FUNCTIONS OF SUPERVISING AIR TRAFFIC AND PASSING FLIGHT DATA TO SOVIETS HAS BEEN SHARED EXCLUSIVELY BY US AND UK. FRENCH HAVE ALSO MADE SPACE AVAILABLE AT TEGEL TO US AERONAUTICS ADMINISTRATOR, HAVE ACCEPTED A US SUGGESTION TO PLAN ANTI-HIJACKING EXERCISE ALONG THE LINES OF SEVERAL US HAS CARRIED OUT AT TEMPELHOF, AND HAVE TAKEN LIVELY INTEREST IN AIR-NOISE PROBLEM. AIR NOISE IS CASE IN POINT: INITIALLY, FRENCH REACTED IN TRADITIONAL MANNER BY WANTING TO DISMISS PROBLEM, BUT PROMPTLY REVERSED THEMSELVES AND NOW ARGUE FOR EARLY DISCUSSION WITH SENAT.

4. WE BELIEVE AS RESULT OF ROLE AT TEGEL FRENCH NATIONAL PRESTIGE WILL BE INVOLVED. THEREFORE, FRENCH INTEND TO RUN THE AIRPORT WELL, INVEST WHAT MONEY IS NECESSARY, AND IN GENERAL DISPLAY COMPETENCE. THEY WANT CLOSE AND FRIENDLY COOPERATION WITH US AND UK CARRIERS BUT WILL REACT STRONGLY TO ANY PROPOSALS WHICH WOULD DIMINISH WHAT FRENCH REGARD AS THEIR JUSTIFIED VOICE IN BERLIN AIR PICTURE. PROPER RESPONSE ON OUR PART SHOULD BE TO DEVELOP HIGHEST POSSIBLE DEGREE OF COOPERATION WITH FRENCH. IN CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 USBERL 02150 260214Z

LINE WITH THIS REASONING, WE HAVE SUGGESTED PAN AM ACQUIRE FRENCH SPEAKING CAPABILITY (THEY NOW HAVE NONE), AND USAA WILL STAFF SPACE MADE AVAILABLE AT TEGEL TO HIS OPERATION WITH FRENCH-SPEAKING EMPLOYEE. FOR SAME REASON, WE SHOLEHEARTEDLY SUPPORT POSITION TAKEN BY DCM CASH (REF A, PARA 2) THAT FRENCH BE BROUGHT INTO US/UK CONSULTATIONS ON BERLIN AIR MATTERS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

5. IN REGARD TO FRENCH CONTROL OF NORTH  
CORRIDOR (REF D), WHILE WE DO NOT APPRECIATE HARD  
BARGAINING OVER TELEG-BASC TELEPHONE LINES, WHICH  
SHOULD BE APPROVED ON MERITS, FIND IN OUR CONVERSATIONS  
WITH FRENCH HERE EXTREME SENSITIVITY TO THOUGHT OF  
HAVING ONLY REPRESENTATIONAL PRESENCE IN BASC. WE  
ARE STUDYING TECHNICAL PROBLEMS INVOLVED AND WILL  
FURNISH VIEWS SEPTTEL, BUT ARE INCLINED IF THERE ARE  
NO OVERRIDING AIR-SAFETY OBJECTIONS, TO GO ALONG.SELIGMANN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BERLIN AIR ACCESS, AIR ROUTES, AIR FARES, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, AIRPORTS, AIR SCHEDULES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 NOV 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974USBERL02150  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740342-0225, D740340-0577  
**From:** USBERLIN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19741117/aaaaanwa.tel  
**Line Count:** 124  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** A. BONN 17827, B. USBERLIN 2056 C. S, TATE 246088 D. BONN 18147  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 07 MAY 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <07 MAY 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <26 MAR 2003 by KelleyW0>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FRENCH ROLE IN BERLIN AIR MATTERS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, ETRN, WB, GE, US, UK, FR  
**To:** STATE BONN  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005